

Letters From Abroad.

The Early Home of the Anglo-Saxons.—The National and the State System of Germany Somewhat Like United States.

BY A. M. STACK.

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NO. 2.

Where I am and near here—occupying the space between the rivers Weser and Elbe—several hundred years ago there lived a tribe of people called the Angles. Not far southeast of here lived another tribe called the Saxons. Where they came from into this territory is not known with any degree of certainty. There are those who believe that they were descendants of the lost tribes of Israel, and there are reasons for so believing. They were a hardy, adventurous people and many of them pushed on westward, crossed the North Sea into Britain, later the Atlantic into America, and today their descendants are found in every clime. Whether or not they were of the people to whom were committed the oracles of God, may always rest in conjecture. But, certain it is, the Anglo Saxon people are today the ones who are going in to all the world and carrying with them the light of civilization and christianity. May not this great race be of the chosen people?

The people who occupy this territory now are a fusion of Frisian-Saxon blood. They are the pure Caucasian, with blue eyes, light hair and rosy cheeks. In the crisp air of the early morning their cheeks are red. They are of a serious turn of mind and laugh but little. Business is business with them. They are dominated by the commercial idea, and Bremen is the second largest port in Germany, the largest being near by on the Elbe and built up by the same kind of people. The annual imports at this place amount to over \$125,000,000, of which four-fifths is raw cotton from the Southern States. The city claims to stand next to Liverpool as importers of our cotton. It is also one of the largest foreign buyers of Virginia and North Carolina leaf tobacco.

These people are our kin folks—distant relatives, so to speak. On the market square stands a monument to Johann Smidt (John Smith). Likely he was a kinsman of all the Smiths in America. But to see these folks is to be proud of them, for they are all good looking. The men are handsome and the women are beautiful. My wife has several times remarked that the girls are real beautiful. I had been thinking the same thing but did not express myself.

One sees but few very aged people. Whether they have killed themselves prematurely drinking beer or are kept in by the miserable weather I cannot say. The sun seldom shines at this time of year. When it does shine it is not two hours high above the horizon at noon and it sets before four o'clock. It rises

late in the day—but earlier than I do.

The German way of administering public affairs has a few things similar to ours, but it would require a book to point out the differences. There is little system or uniformity. We are accustomed to associate with the German Empire the idea of great strength and power. That is true so far as we are concerned. As to third parties it is great, but inside of Germany it is a small potato. When it comes to home affairs, each State is all powerful and the imperial government a mere safeguard against foreign powers. National interference in State matters and Federal injunctions are unheard of. When the different States and separate governments were re-united after the Franco-Prussian war, the union was for military strength and self-protection. The States reserved just about all of their previous powers as independent governments. For instance, Bremen reserved even the right to designate the imperial customs officer for this port, and Bavaria, under its reserved rights, owns and operates its own postal system, its telegraph, telephone and express business. The Emperor of Germany draws no salary as such, but only as King of Prussia. Then certain States or cities are leagued together and run a side show on their own account. The Supreme Court of the State of Bremen does not even sit in the State. Bremen, Hamburg and Lubeck are old Hanseatic cities and the Supreme Court of the three holds its sessions in Hamburg. The judges of this court are elected from the three cities. Then, again, the city of Bremen is bigger than the State of Bremen—that is, the city controls the State. It is the old city idea of Athens and Rome, and later of Venice and Genoa. Each State sends representatives to Berlin in proportion to population—Senate as well as House. Bremen sends one Senator and Prussia about eighteen. The Senator from Bremen is elected by the State Senate, and the member of lower House at Berlin by popular vote.

The State Legislature of Bremen is composed of 16 Senators, elected for life by the lower House and the Senate. Under the constitution ten of them must be lawyers, three merchants while the calling of three is optional. (The lawyers had a hand in making that constitution.) At the head of the Senate two Senators are elected for four years, and they take the chair as president of the body alternately each year. The acting President of the Senate is also Mayor of Bremen. The House is composed of 150 members, who are elected by classes; that is, the merchants elect a certain number, and all other people a certain number. One class can not vote for a candidate of another class. The large Socialist vote would elect all the members were it not for this class representation.

This Legislature makes all the laws the State, and it makes a lot of them. They regulate everything by law. But this regulation by law is not leveled so

much at the individual as at those who deal with the public in a business way. As one man expressed it, referring to his favorite subject, "If you buy a glass of beer, the seller must fill up the glass or you can call a policeman and make him fill it." All the different callings are regulated by law, even the chimney sweeps, street cleaners, etc. A schedule of prices is posted at the depot. Beer 2½ cents per glass. A pretty fair cigar for 2½ cents, but the imported American cigar is high. Nearly all of the men smoke; all drink beer. Beer is for sale at about every other house. If on the ground floor the sign will be, "Bier Halle"; if in a cellar the sign will be, "Bier Keller," or "Beir Tunnel." Beer is usually sold by young women. I did not learn whether or not that occupation diminished their chances of marriage; I should think not, owing to the popularity of the beverage in Germany.

All men engaged in the public service must wear uniforms. Those in one branch wear blue, those in another wear green, those in another brown, etc. Judging from the number of uniforms worn, it look like a fourth of the male population is engaged in public service. But the railroads, express, telegraph and telephone are all operated by the government, as well as the postal system. Likewise, the street cars belong to the public service.

The court system is not so simple as ours. The civil and criminal courts are kept separate. Juries decide by a majority verdict. Under their system there is no such thing as one man having as much sense as his eleven associates and preventing a decision of issues. If a litigant is too poor to employ a lawyer he is given one in both civil and criminal matters.

The imperial government owns and operates the telegraph, telephone and express business as a part of the postal department of the empire, except in Bavaria. The railroads are owned by certain of the States. The two systems running into Bremen are owned by other States, one by Prussia and the other by the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. The roadbeds are simply splendid and accidents rarely ever occur. Their trains, however, are shabby affairs. There are four classes. Often one coach is for three classes—the third at each end, the second next to the third, and the first class in the middle. The difference is mainly in the seats. The fourth class passengers have to stand, their cars resembling somewhat our cattle cars. When you have to change cars at a small town where the connections are poor, and where they have not so much as heard of the English language, the annoyance is almost enough to "make a preacher cuss." The people themselves are just a little too clever and good natured.

No matter what you ask them they will either say or nod "yes." Too much of that kind of information causes confusion and errors. The trains make good time. Wherever the public highways cross the railroad some one is stationed to keep the gate. The

Bargain Seekers Take Notice

We will offer to the trading public for the next 30 days our entire stock of Men's and Boys' Clothing; also our line of nice Pants at cost. In dry goods and notions we carry everything that is kept in a general store, and will sell them lower than you can buy them anywhere in town. We have some superb bargains in dress goods in all colors and styles.

HATS AND SHOES.

Hats in all styles and prices to suit all. For men we offer an attractive line of fine shoes in 3.50 and 5.00. These are the celebrated Reynolds Shoes, the best on the market. In ladies' fine shoes we give you the Stoolman Shoes, one of the best in America. We have them in all kinds and styles and they are right up to the minute and are in the prettiest kind of patents and black leathers—from 2.00 to 3.50. Our line of shoes for boys, misses and children surpasses anything ever before offered by us—from 50c to 2.50.

November 6, 1906.

Yours for business,

McCardell & Allison Bros.

Old Mercantile Stand.

"The Old Reliable."

THE BANK OF LANCASTER, Lancaster, S. C.

CAPITAL.....\$50,000.00.

SURPLUS.....\$50,000.00.

Loans made on Real Estate, at reasonable rates. Collections given prompt and careful attention. Interest allowed on time deposits. Your business solicited. The oldest, the largest and the strongest Bank in Lancaster county.

An Ordinance

To Raise Supplies for the Fiscal Year Commencing January 1st, 1907.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Lancaster, S. C., in council assembled, and by the authority of the same, to provide for supplies and necessary expenses of the town:

Section 1. That the following taxes be and are hereby levied for the fiscal year 1907, that is to say:

1st. A tax of fifty cents on each \$100.00 of the value of all real estate and personal property within the corporate limits of the town of Lancaster, S. C., due and payable between the first and thirtieth days of November, 1907, at the office of the Town Treasurer; and all taxes due and remaining unpaid on the first day of December, 1907, shall be subject to a penalty of fifteen per cent. for the non-payment of taxes when due. And the Town Treasurer, after default in the payment of said taxes, shall issue execution to any Policeman or the town or Sheriff of the county for the delinquent taxes, costs and penalties, following the mode for collecting delinquent taxes as now provided by State laws.

Sec. 7. All able bodied male persons between the ages of eighteen and fifty years, residing within the corporate limits of the said town, not exempt from road duty under the laws of the State, shall work the streets, pavements, ways and bridges of the town under the direction and to the satisfaction of such policeman or overseers as may be appointed or may have already been appointed, for a space of time not less than four days nor exceeding six days in each year. Provided that, at the time of receiving notice to perform such work, any person may pay into the Town Treasury two dollars commutation tax, which shall be received in lieu of said work; that a substitute may be furnished, provided that such substitute is a male person over eighteen years of age and provided with necessary tools, and he shall be required to do full and satisfactory work.

Any person refusing to pay said commutation tax, perform said work, or furnish the required substitute with necessary tools, shall be fined not less than ten dollars nor more than thirty dollars, in the discretion of the Mayor.

Sec. 8. All ordinances or part of ordinances in consistent herewith shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

Ratified by the Mayor and Aldermen, in council assembled, this 18th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and six.

L. S. C. D. JONES, R. E. WYLIE,
Clerk & Treas. Mayor.

The News Does Job Printing for others. Why can't we do yours? ? ? ? ?

Wanted!

We want to buy within the next three weeks all the cows, sheep, goats, hogs, chickens, geese, turkeys, ducks, guineas, eggs, butter, etc., for sale in Lancaster county, and will pay the highest cash price for same. Our business has increased to such an extent that we find it difficult to keep enough meat to supply our trade, and for this reason we are paying a little better price than other folks for cattle, poultry, etc. So if you have anything in this line for sale, bring it along and bring it quick. We also want to buy corn, peas, green and dry hides. Highest cash price paid for all.

We wish to say to our trade that we are prepared to deliver anything you want in the meat line. Handling so many beeves a day enables you to get your choice cut. We also handle fish and oysters.

Plyler Bros.

Auditor's Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given that this office will be open from the 1st day of January to the 20th day of February 1907 for the purpose of receiving the returns of the taxpayers of Lancaster county.

The Auditor or an Assistant will attend the following places in the county on the days named below for the convenience of the public, viz:

Osceola, Tuesday, Jan. 8th 1907, 12 to 3 p m
Pleasant Valley, Wed, Jan 9, 1907,
Belair, Thursday, " 10 "
Van Wyck, Friday, " 11 " " 2 " "
Dixie, Monday, " 14 " " 12 "
Dwight, Monday, " 15 " " 4 p m
Tradesville, Tuesday, " 15 "
Tazewell, Wednesday, " 16 "
Flat Creek Ch, Thurs, " 17 "
Dr C C Welsh's, Fri, " 18 "
Primus, Saturday, " 19 " to 12 m
Haile Gold Mine, Mon, " 21 "
Kershaw, Tues & Wed, " 22 and 23 1907,
Heath Springs, Thurs, " 24 1907,
Pleasant Hill, Friday, " 25 " to 1 p m
W T Vandlandingham's Mon, Jan. 28, 1907.

It will be to the interest of every taxpayer, to make their returns promptly of all personal property, also all transfers or improvements on real estate and save the penalty of 50 per cent which attaches after the 20th of February.

The Poll tax of one dollar is laid upon all persons between the ages of 21 and 60, except those exempt by law.

Respectfully,
Jno. A. Cook,
County Auditor.

Lancaster, S. C. Dec. 11th, 1906.

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